

The Rule of Thumb:

A Five Year Overview of
Domestic Violence in South
Carolina

Methodology

- The report used crime incident report data from SLED.
- The time frame was 2004 through 2008.
- Domestic violence included homicide, sexual violence, robbery, aggravated and simple assault and intimidation where the victim and offender were/had been married, were related or dating.

Domestic Violence Offenses

- Simple assault was the most frequently reported domestic violence offense.
- There were 446 domestic homicides from 2004 through 2008.
- There were 6,478 acts of domestic sexual violence during those five years.
- Vandalism was the non-violent offense most often reported along with domestic violence.

Domestic Violence – Time of Day

- Domestic violence was most often reported during the evening hours.
- More domestic violence was reported on Saturday than any other day.
- Not surprisingly, more domestic violence was reported on Saturday evenings than any other time during the week.

Victims of Domestic Violence

- Women and girls made up 74% of domestic violence victims.
- Young adults from 18 to 34 accounted for 50% of domestic violence victims.

Victims of Domestic Violence

- 53% of domestic violence victims were White, however the victimization rate for Non-Whites was 67% higher than for Whites.
- Less than 3% of domestic violence victims were Hispanic. The victimization rate among Non-Hispanics was 56% higher than the rate among Hispanics.

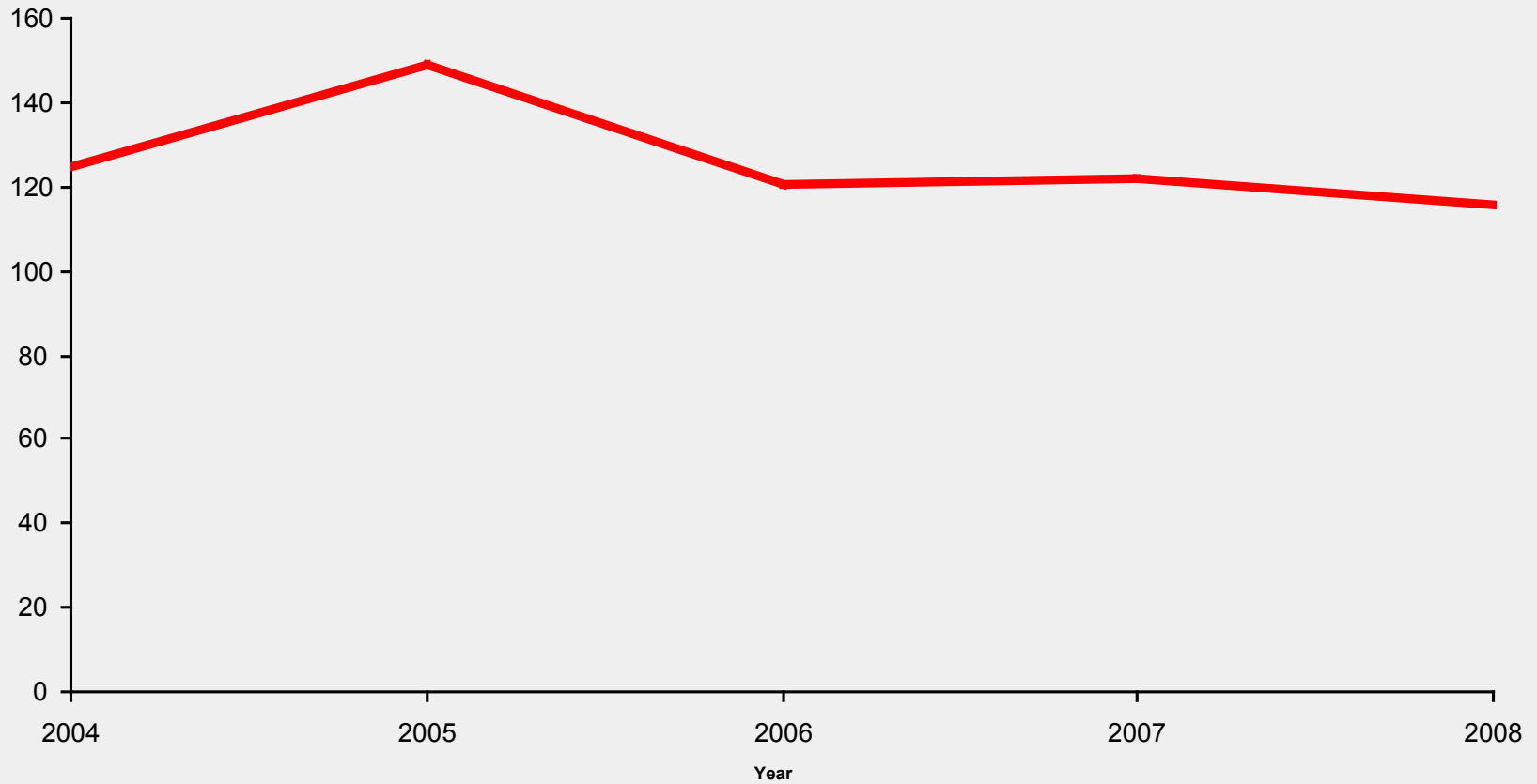
Victim/Offender Relationships

- Four types of domestic violence were included in this report: violence involving ex-spouses, family members, spouses and romantic partners.
- Romantic partners accounted for 34% of domestic violence victims, family members 32%, spouses 31% and ex-spouses 3%.

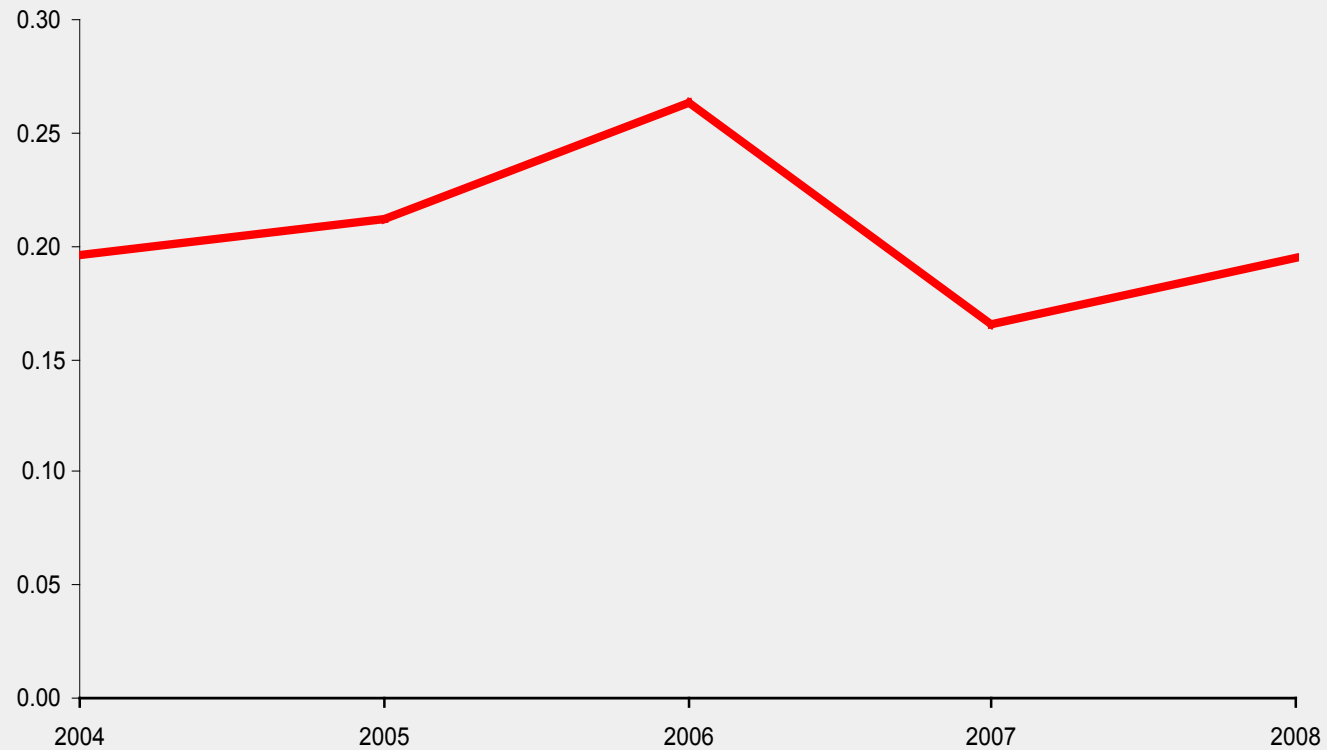
Victim/Offender Relationships

- Wives were 80% of the victims in spousal violence.
- Ex-wives were 79% of the victims in domestic violence among ex-spouses.
- Other family members such as cousins, aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews made up 25% of family violence victims.
- Girlfriends were 83% of the domestic violence victims among romantic partners.

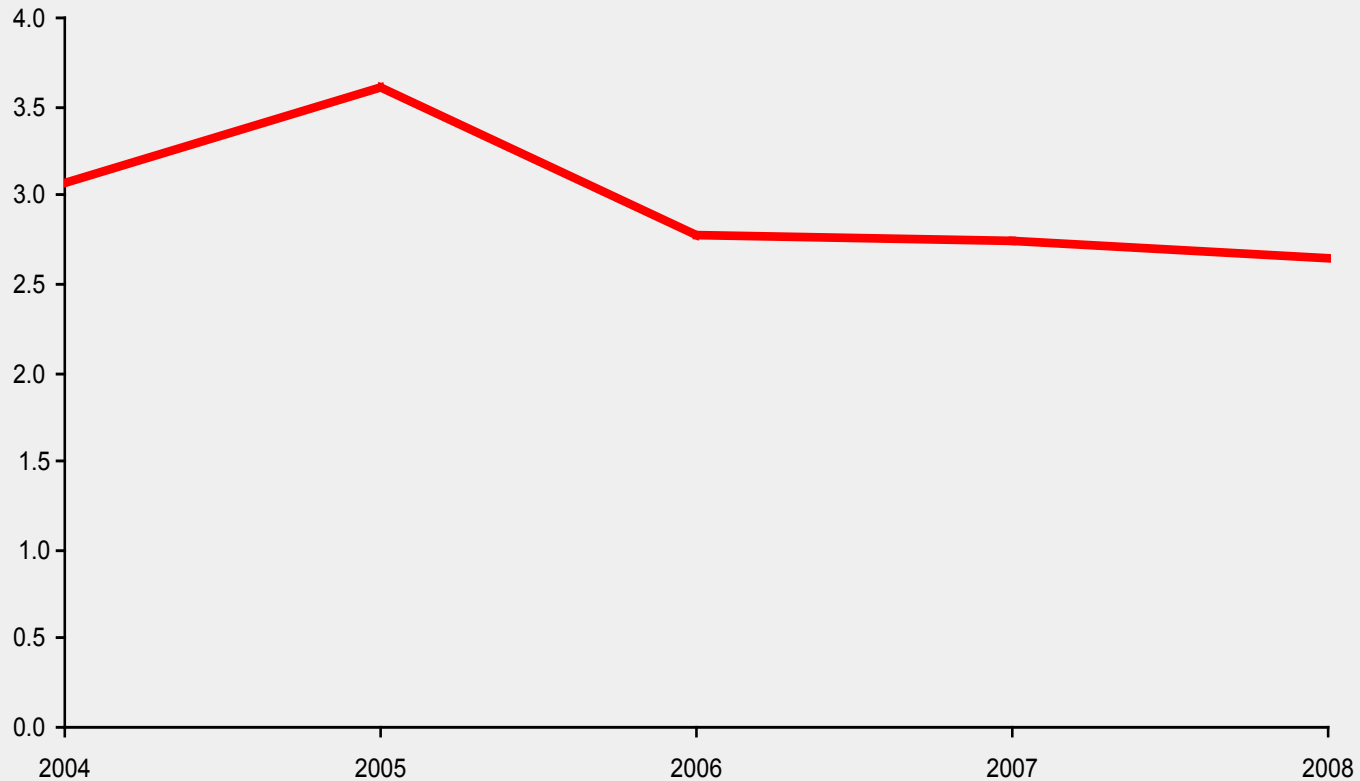
Domestic Violence Rate



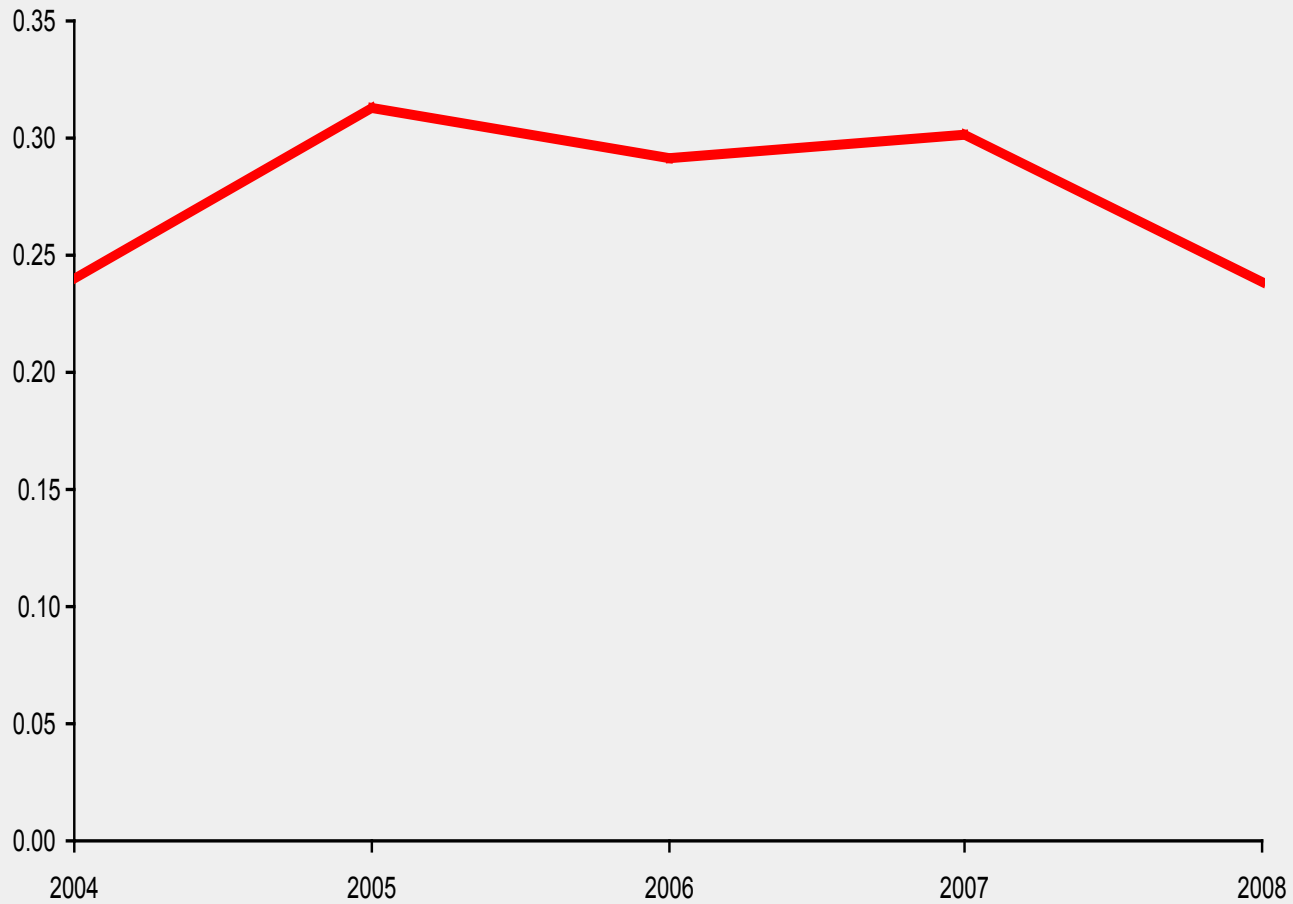
Domestic Homicide Rate



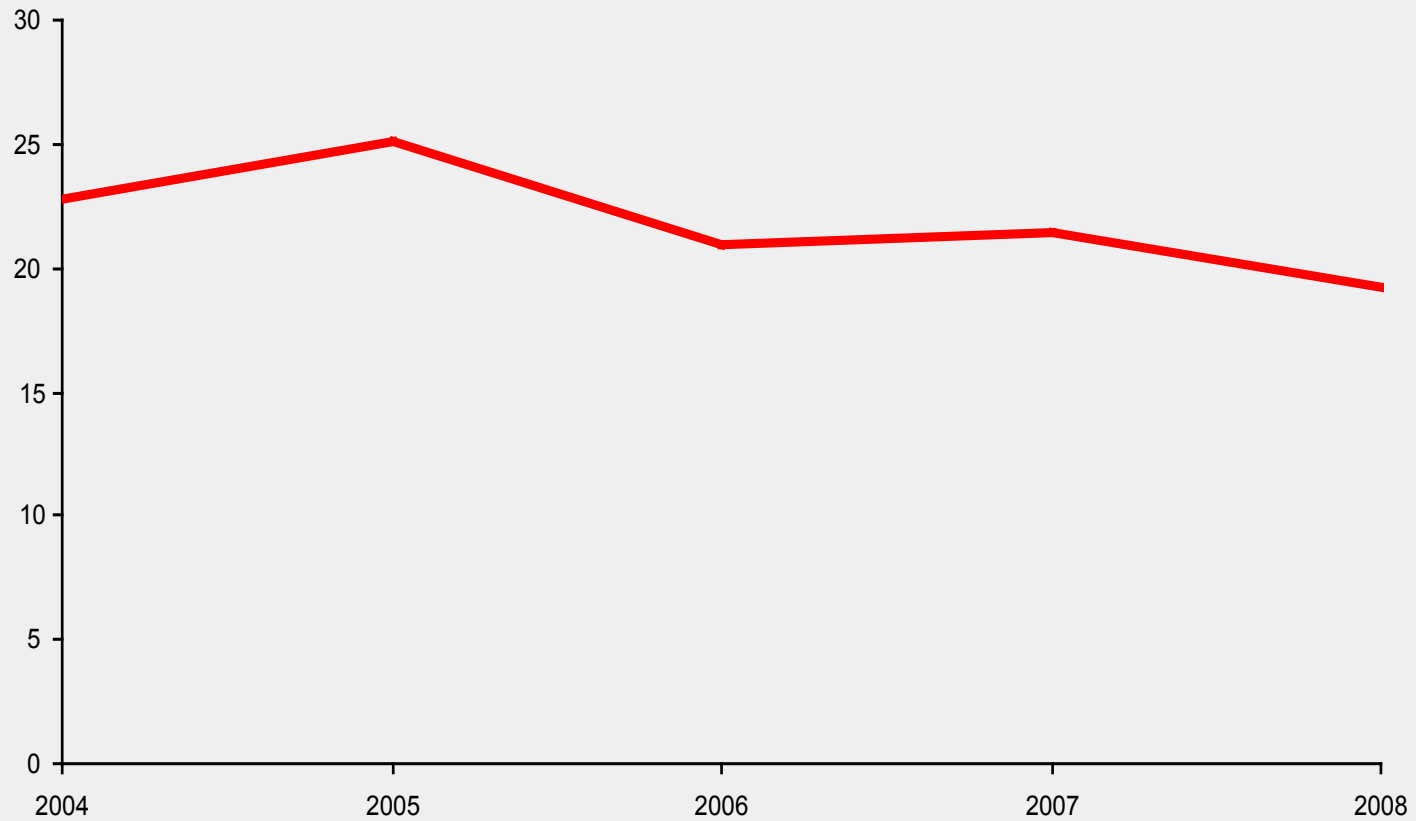
Domestic Sexual Violence Rate



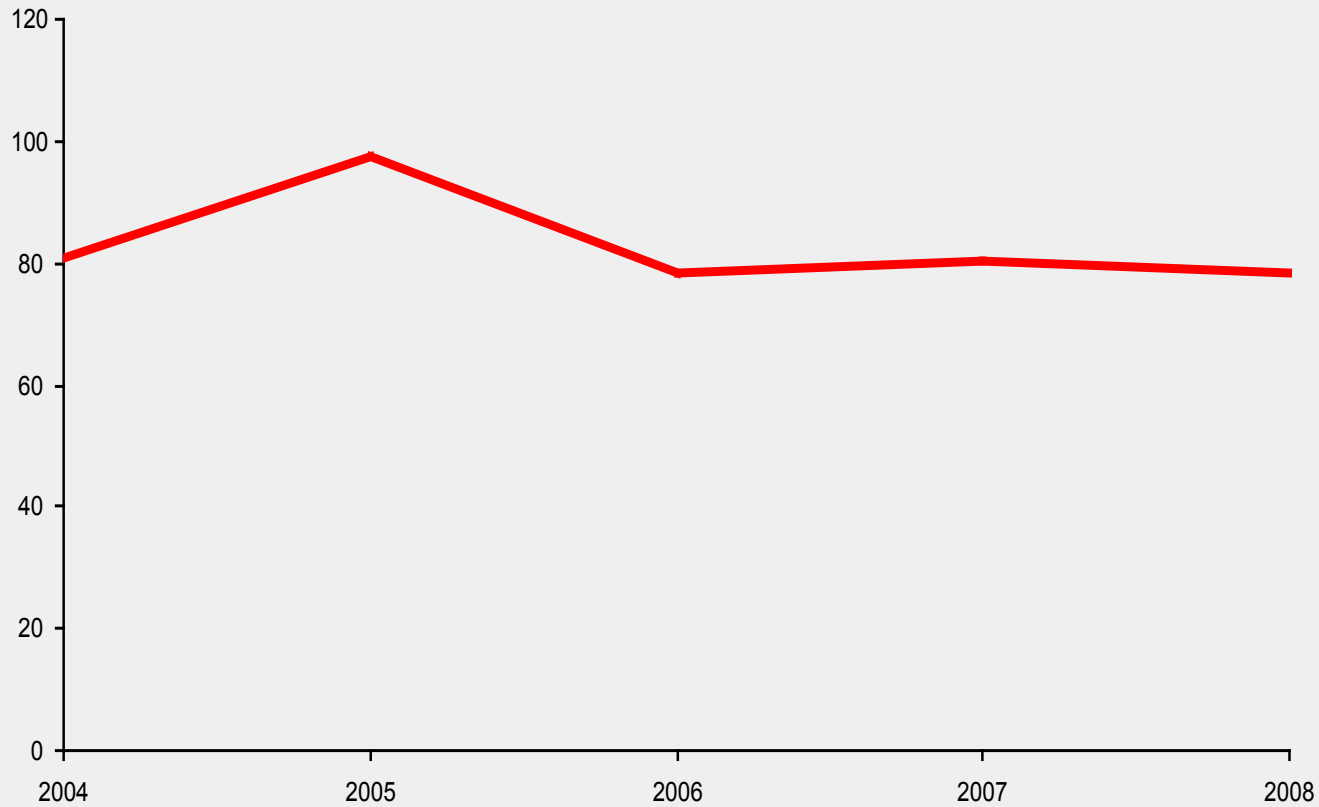
Domestic Robbery Rate



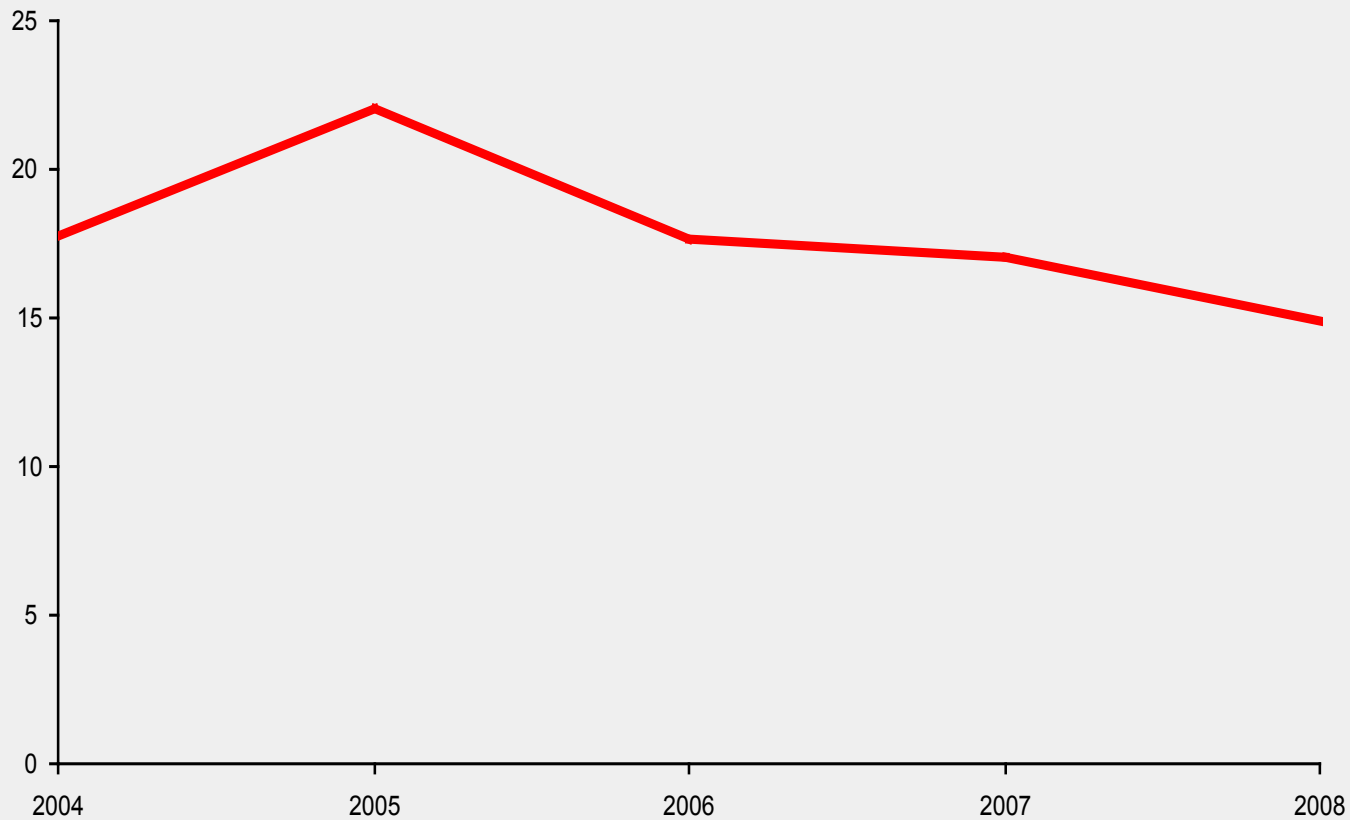
Domestic Aggravated Assault Rate



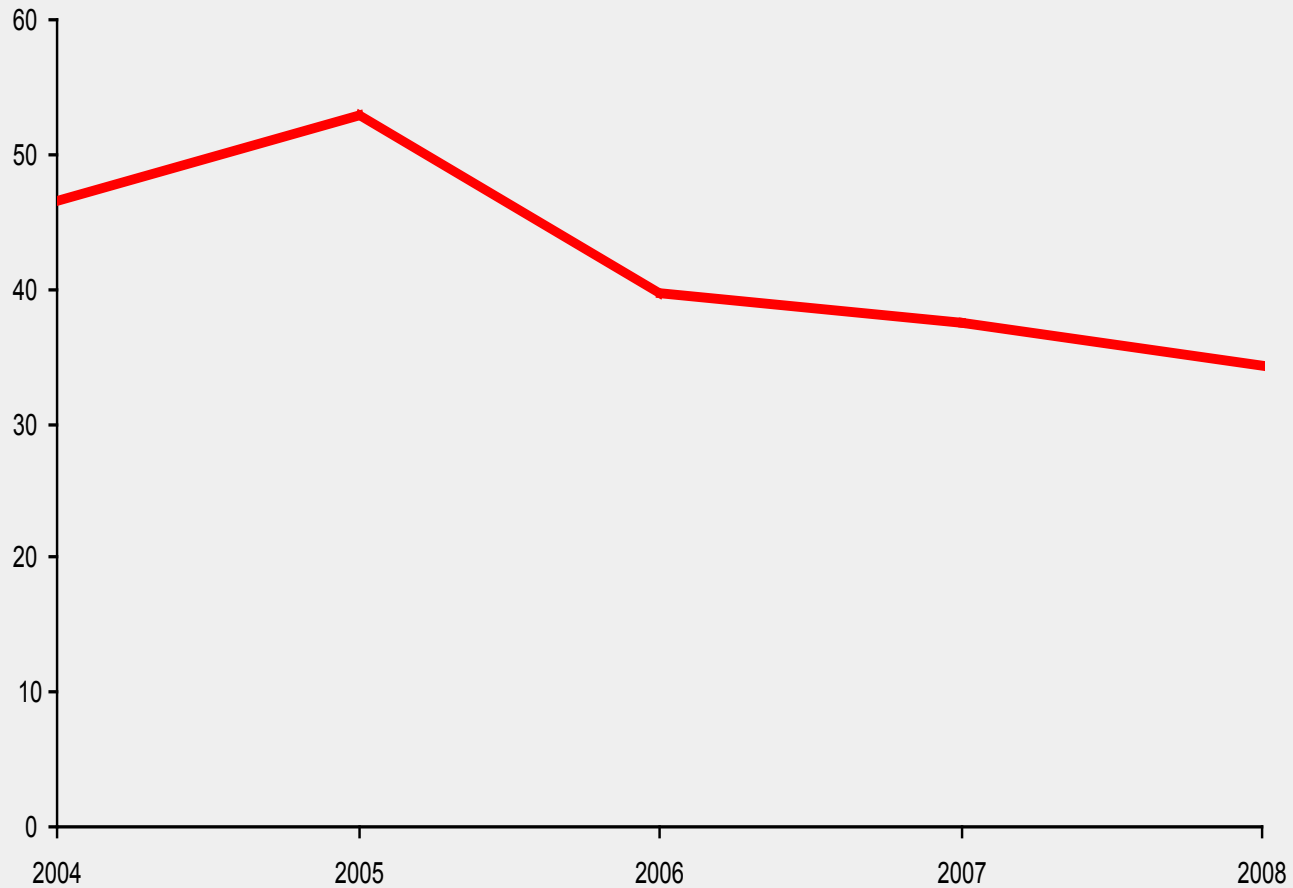
Domestic Simple Assault Rate



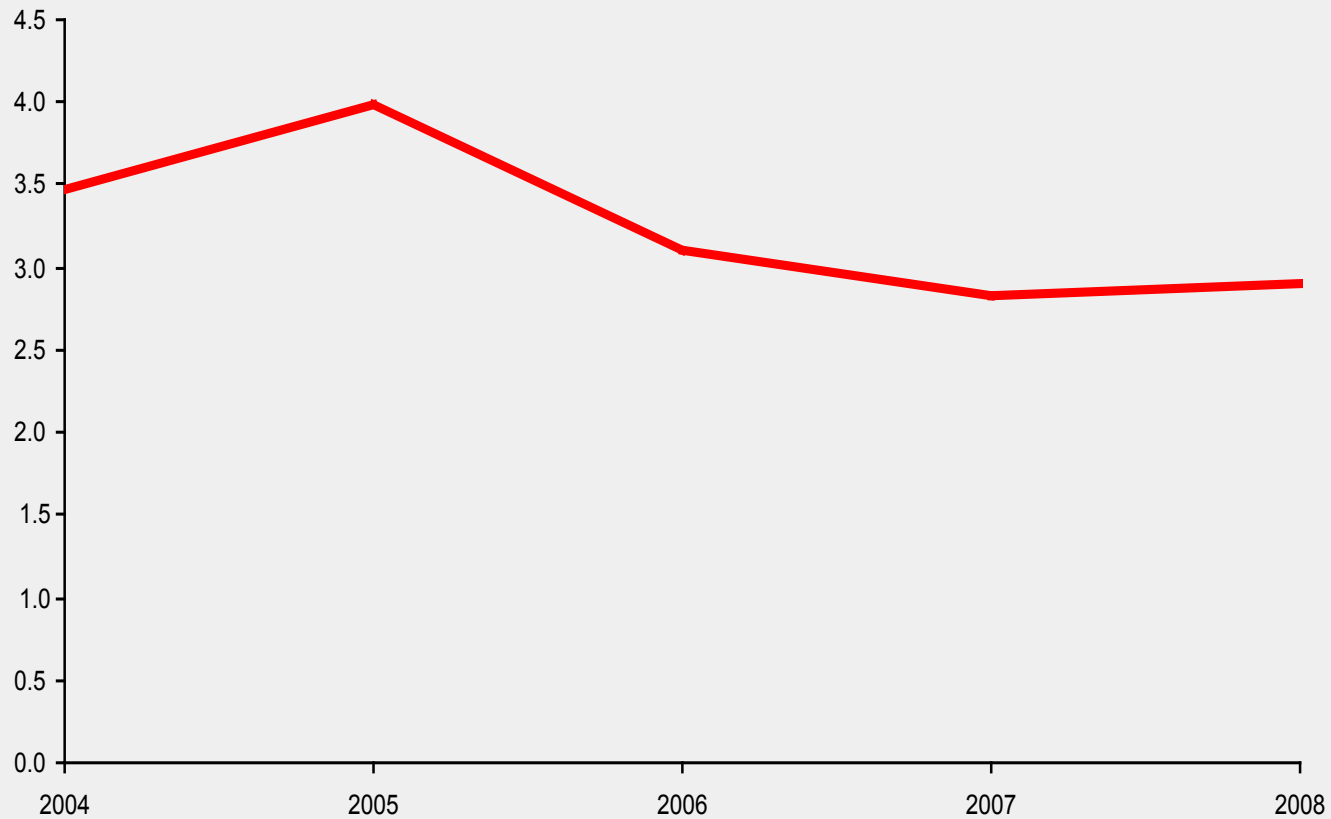
Domestic Intimidation Rate



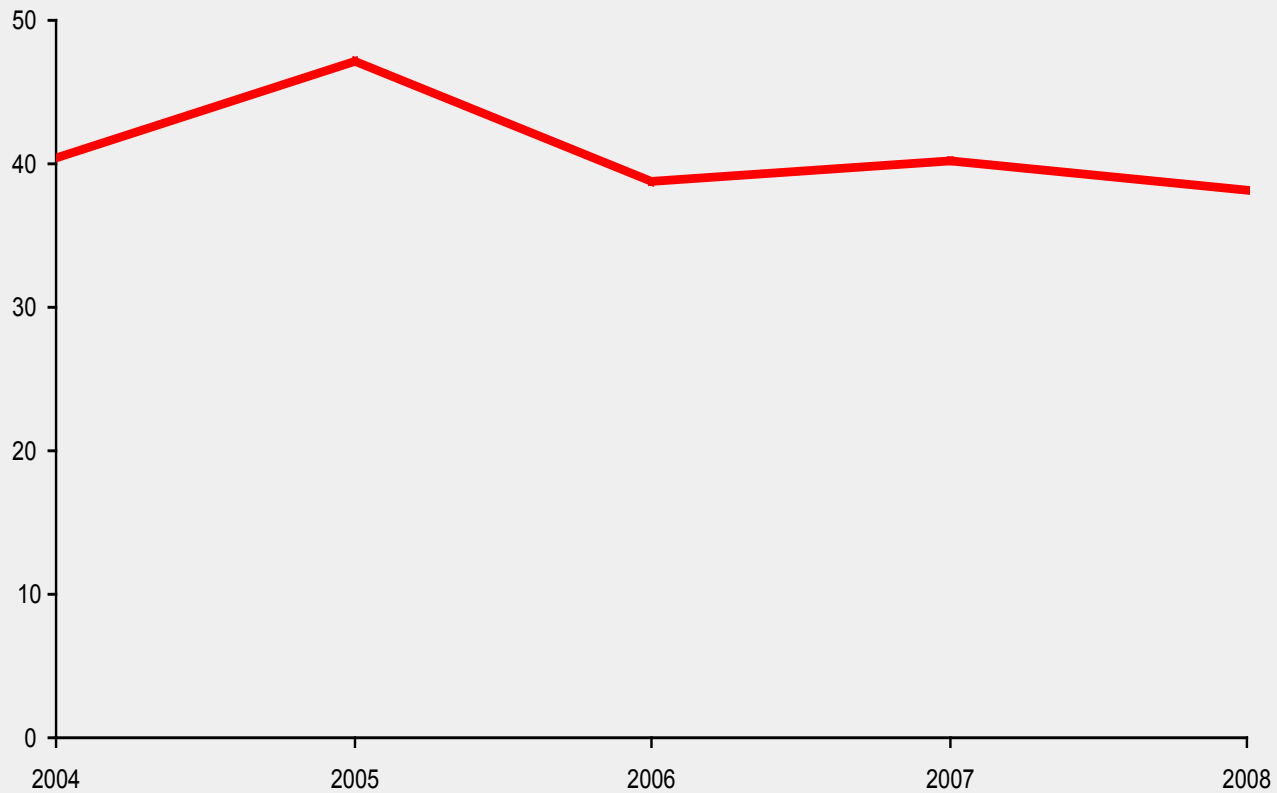
CDV Proxy Rate



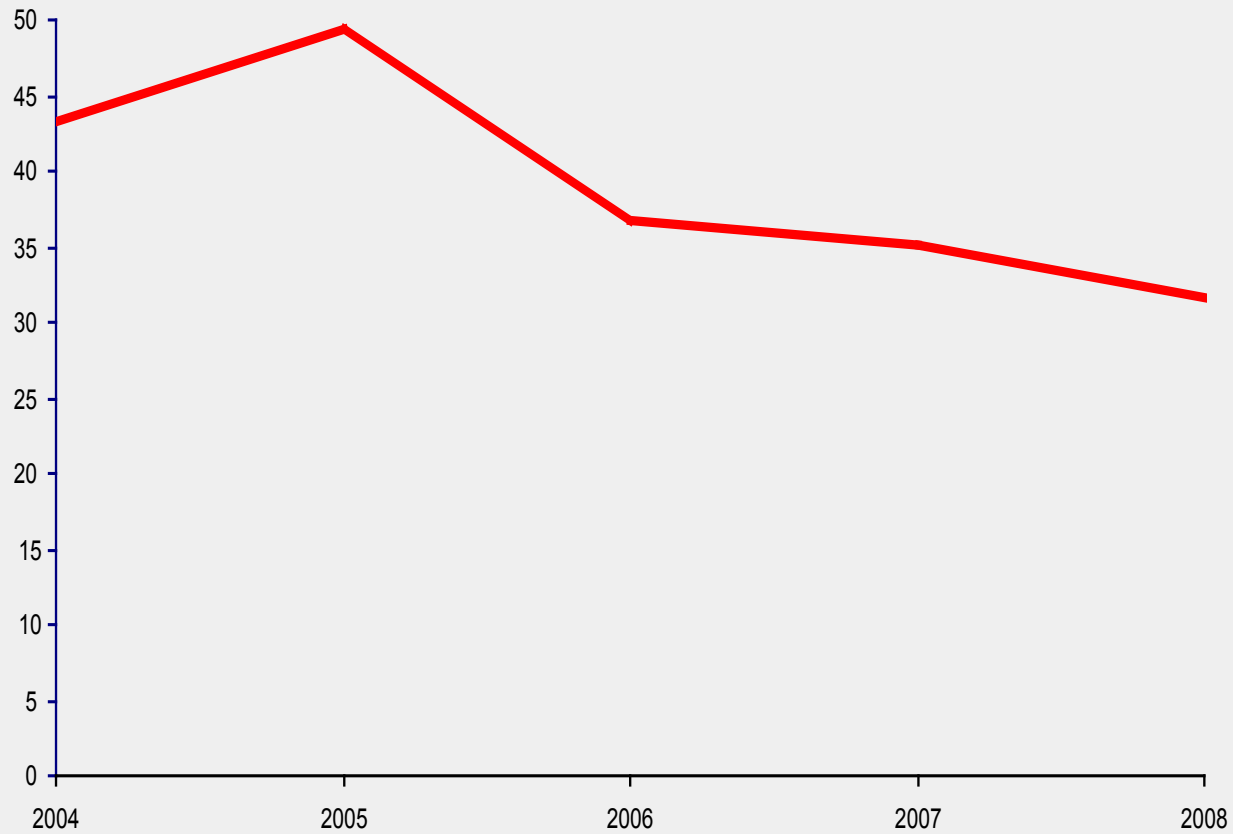
Ex-Spouse Violence Rate



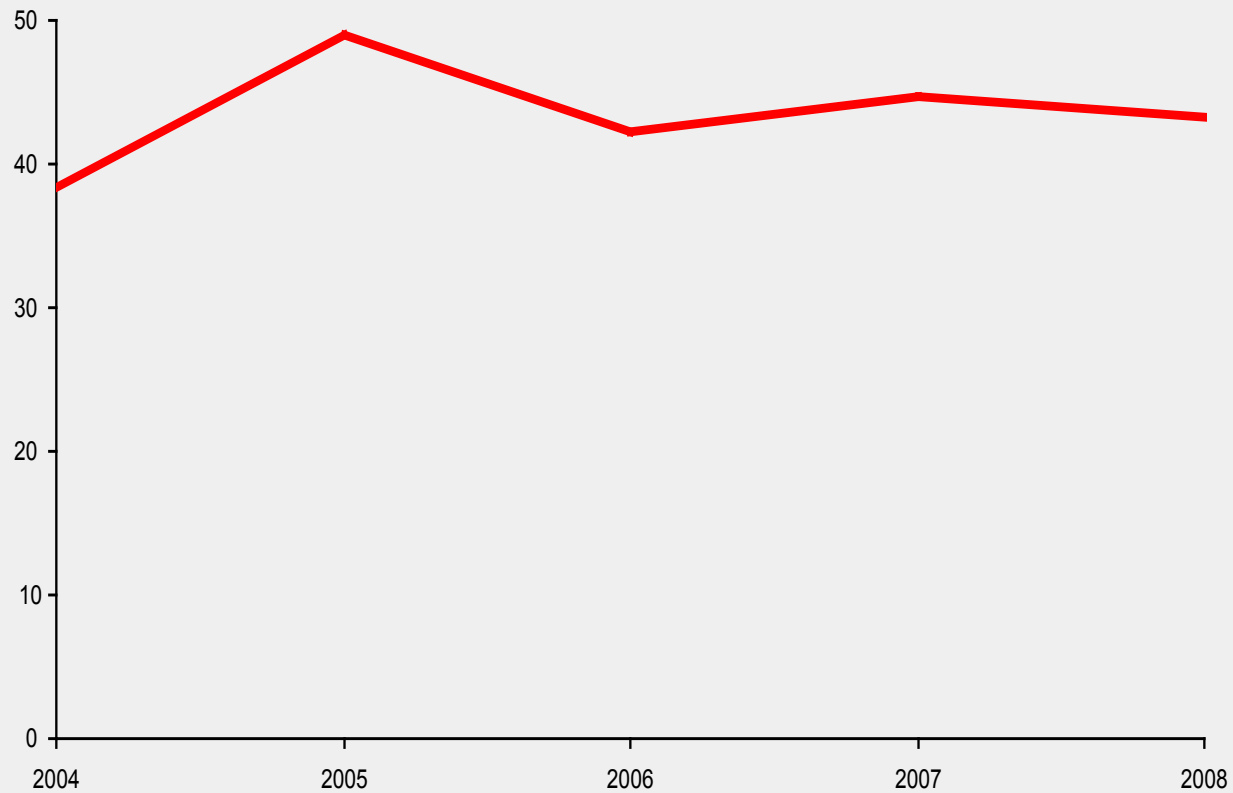
Family Violence Rate



Marital Violence Rate



Violence Rate – Romantic Partners



County Rankings - 2008

- Horry County reported the most domestic violence victims, Colleton County had the highest domestic violence rate.
- Anderson County reported eleven domestic violence homicides, the most in the state.
- Greenville County reported the most domestic sexual violence victims, Chester County had the highest domestic sexual violence rate.

County Rankings - 2008

- Richland County was 1st in domestic aggravated assault victims, Fairfield County had the highest rate.
- Horry County reported the most domestic simple assault victims, Orangeburg County had the highest victimization rate.
- Horry County reported the most domestic intimidation victims, Marion County had the highest victimization rate.

County Information

For information about domestic violence in a specific county, please see the full report starting on page 85, with the counties following in alphabetical order. Each county has a three page profile consisting of domestic violence trend and victim information during the 2004 to 2008 time period.

QUESTIONS?

- The full report, *The Rule of Thumb: A Five Year Overview of Domestic Violence in South Carolina 2004 – 2008* is available online at:
<http://www.scdps.org/ojp/statistics.asp>
- Or you may email questions to:
robertmcmanus@scdps.net